

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2020 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	FCCS SB 241
Fiscal Note Number:	36
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Identifier: SB241HCSCS(RLS)amH-DHSS-MS-3-27-2020
Title: EXTENDING COVID 19 DISASTER EMERGENCY
Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR
Requester: (S) RLS

Department: Department of Health and Social Services
Appropriation: Medicaid Services
Allocation: Medicaid Services
OMB Component Number: 3234

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2021 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2021 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2021	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2020) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2021) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? No
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? N/A

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

This fiscal note reflects the change of the public health disaster emergency declaration extension to November 15, 2020.

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Date: 03/27/2020
Date: 03/27/20

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

This bill extends until November 15, 2020 the public health emergency the Governor declared on March 11, 2020 related to the COVID-19 pandemic health response and economic stabilization. The bill is effective immediately and retroactive to April 10, 2020.

This bill will do the following:

- Extends the public health disaster emergency under AS 26.23.020(c) until November 15, 2020. When there is no longer an imminent threat, the Governor shall issue a proclamation ending the disaster emergency.

- Allows the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) Chief Medical Officer to issue standing orders related to COVID-19. Standing orders are effective until retracted or the emergency declaration extension ends. The Chief Medical Officer and health care providers are not liable for civil damages for issuing or acting under a standing order, except for misconduct.

- The Governor must submit a monthly report to the Legislature beginning May 1, 2020 identifying all actions taken by the administration related to the prevention, control and status of COVID-19.

- Allows the DHSS Commissioner to waive any state law or regulation related to telehealth or telemedicine if compliance would substantially prevent or impede health care services.

- Provides authority for DHSS, in coordination with the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, to establish sanitation procedures for retail sellers for the duration of the emergency declaration.

Funding:

An increase of federal authority for Medicaid is anticipated to help pay for an increase in Medicaid Services as the U.S. House of Representatives passed a stimulus package to address economic effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. The package, which has the support of the White House, is expected to have a Senate vote in the coming days. It will include a temporary Medicaid FMAP increase of 6.2 percentage points for certain eligibility categories and requires Medicaid to provide coverage for COVID-19 testing at no cost to the beneficiary. State expenditures for medical and administrative costs will be matched at an enhanced percentage by the federal government and possibly up to 100 percent.

This additional federal authority will allow the department to increase federal collections to offset unrestricted general fund expenditures in FY2020. A zero-dollar estimate is included due to uncertainty on the timing and amount of increased federal receipts.